

WESTMORLAND COUNTY COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

COUNTY MEDICAL
OFFICER OF HEALTH.

THE YEAR 1943

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of the

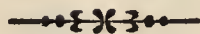
**COUNTY MEDICAL
OFFICER OF HEALTH.**

THE YEAR 1943

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County of Westmorland.



Public Health Department,
County Hall,
Kendal.
November, 1944.

To the Chairman and Members of the County Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We beg to present our Annual Report for 1943.

A very welcome new development of the Tuberculosis Service has come into force this year, for the payment of maintenance grants under the new Tuberculosis Scheme. This has already been put into practice in this area.

We must again acknowledge the help and co-operation we have received from many sources. Dr. Cockill, the District Medical Officer, and the Practitioners generally have given us every support, and again appreciation is due to the whole of the medical, nursing and clerical staff for their continued efforts to meet the increasing demands of our expanding Services.

;

We should also like to acknowledge the great amount of voluntary help which has been given to us throughout the year, naming especially the Women's Voluntary Services, the joint members of St. John and the Red Cross Society, the voluntary helpers at Infant Welfare and Immunisation Clinics and at Fruit Juice Distribution Centres.

We have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servants,

J. WRIGHT,

J. F. DOW,

Joint County Medical Officers.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY IN 1943.

Name.	Qualifications.	Office.	Whole or Part Time.	Other Offices.
J. M. L. Wright	L.R.C.P. & S. Ed., L.R.F.P. & S. Glas. D.P.H.	Joint County Medical Officers	Whole	School Medical Officer, County of Westmorland
J. F. Dow	.. M.D., Ch.B.	..	Whole	School Medical Officer, Borough of Kendal
J. Munro Campbell	.. M.B., Ch. B., D.P.H.	.. Tuberculosis Officer	Part	Medical Superintendent, Meathop Sanatorium.
John Irvine	.. L.D.S.	.. Senior Dental Officer.	Whole	
W. McGregor Morton	.. L.D.S. (on Service)	.. Assist. Dental Officer.	Part	School Dental Officer, Borough of Kendal.
E. A. Weaver	.. L.D.S.	.. Assist. Dental Officer.	Whole	

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres, land and inland water)	...	...	504,917
Population (Registrar-General's estimate of Resident Population, mid 1943)	...	...	69,360
Total Rateable Value as on 1st April, 1943	...	£439,768	10 0
Estimated product of a Penny Rate (General County) for the financial year 1943-44	...	£1,738	0 0

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS IN THE YEAR 1943.

			Total.	Males.	Females.
Live Births—Legitimate	...	...	926	488	438
Illegitimate	...	...	63	33	30
			—	—	—
Total Births	...	...	989	521	468
			—	—	—

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 14.2.

Birth Rate, England and Wales, 16.5.

			Total.	Males.	Females.
Stillbirths	...	...	23	13	10
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths,			22.7.		

			Total.	Males.	Females.
Deaths	...	...	914	437	477

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 13.1.

Death Rate, England and Wales, 12.1.

Deaths from Diseases and Accidents of Pregnancy or Childbirth:—

Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	Nil
Other Puerperal Causes	...	...	...	...	2

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, for the purpose of calculating Maternal Mortality, 1.98.

Maternal Mortality Rate, England and Wales, per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 1.45.

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 total live births	...	...	49.5
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	46.4
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	95.2
Infantile Death Rate, England and Wales,			49.

			1942.	1943.
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	110	149
„ „ Measles (all ages)	...	...	Nil	Nil
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	1	1
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	4	6

The Births registered in the last 5 years were as follows:—

Year	...	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.
No. of Births	...	942	854	898	950	989

TABLE I.
DEATH RATE, 1942 and 1943.

Death Rate per 1,000 estimated average population.

District.		Death Rate 1941.	Death Rate 1942.	Death Rate 1943.
URBAN.				
Appleby	...	11.2	11.1	15.05
Kendal	...	12.2	10.7	14.3
Lakes	...	10.9	10.9	13.5
Windermere	...	11.2	12.7	12.6
RURAL.				
North Westmorland	...	13.2	10.4	12.2
South Westmorland	...	13.3	11.5	12.8
WESTMORLAND	...	12.4	11.1	13.1
ENGLAND & WALES	...	12.9	11.6	12.1

The chief causes of deaths in Westmorland in 1941, 1942 and 1943, in order of maximum fatality, were as follows:—

	No. of deaths in 1941.	No. of deaths in 1942.	No. of deaths in 1943.
Heart Disease	224	189	240
Cancer	140	110	149
Cerebral Haemorrhage	106	113	110
Nephritis	51	36	43
Bronchitis	27	28	33
Deaths from violence	43	24	28
Digestive Diseases	24	17	28
Pneumonia	30	21	22
Other circulatory diseases	29	30	20
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	29	20	14
Other forms of Tuberculosis	11	3	7

The general rise in death rate appears a little disturbing; one explanation may be that a large number of older people have come into the County for the sake of peace and quietness during war-time. There has been no epidemic to cause such an increase.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

TABLE II.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Rate per 1,000 Live Births.

District.	1941.	1942.	1943.
URBAN.			
Appleby	34	34.4	74.0
Kendal	53	57.5	55.0
Lakes	41	114.0	39.0
Windermere	30	47.6	87.0
RURAL.			
North Westmorland	55	46.9	50.0
South Westmorland	40	82.0	32.0
WESTMORLAND	46	63.1	49.5
ENGLAND & WALES	59	49.0	49.0

ILLEGITIMATE INFANT DEATH RATE.

Rate per 1,000 illegitimate Live Births.

	1941.	1942.	1943.
WESTMORLAND	100	175.4	95.2
ENGLAND & WALES	78	74.0	72.0

Causes of Death of Infants under 1 year in 1942 and 1943,
including the Borough of Kendal.

Deaths in order of maximum fatality:—

	No. of deaths in 1942.	No. of deaths in 1943.
Prematurity	19	20
Pneumonia	7	11
Congenital abnormalities	7	11
Other causes	8	9
Convulsions	5	8
Diarrhoea	—	7
Debility and marasmus	5	4
Meningitis	—	2
Bronchitis	2	2
Cerebral haemorrhage	4	—
Gastritis	3	—

DISTRICT MIDWIFERY, INFANT WELFARE, HEALTH VISITING AND HOME NURSING.

During 1943 the following payments were made to the District Nursing Associations from the County Councils:—

	£	s.	d.
Maternity and Child Welfare Health Visiting ...	1310	0	0
Tuberculosis After-care Visiting ...	253	0	0
School Nursing ...	340	10	0
Midwives Act Services ...	2712	10	0
	£4616	0	0

A report follows, made by the County Medical Officer to the County Nursing Association, on the work done by the 34 District Nurses acting as Health Visitors for the County Council.

REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE DISTRICT NURSES IN WESTMORLAND IN 1943.

Domiciliary Maternity Nursing.

	1943	1942	1941
No. of Midwifery Cases ..	194	186	159
No. of Maternity Cases ..	246	275	286
	440	461	445
No. of Nurses who hold Analgesia Certificates ..			12
No. of Cases in which Gas-Air Analgesia was administered by Nurses ..			27

Infant Welfare.

	1943	1942	1941
No. of Infants Visited ..	704	678	572
Total Health Visits to Infants ..	6867	6391	6149
Total Health Visits to Children, 1-5 yrs.	6813	7950	7096

Immunisation of Pre-School Children against Diphtheria.

In December, 1943 it was estimated that of the total child population of Westmorland aged 0 to 5, excluding the Borough of Kendal, 56% had been immunised.

This exceptionally high proportion of protected children is almost entirely due to the enthusiastic support of the scheme by our nurses, who have taken endless trouble to round up the mothers, and in many areas were able to report, with justifiable pride, that 100% of their pre-school children had been immunised.

Infant Welfare Centres.

There are now nine Clinics held once a month with the assistance of the Nurses.

The Clinics have been well attended, and they serve as very useful centres for Immunisation as well as for the distribution of fruit juices, cod liver oil, and, at some centres, dried milk.

Attendances at Clinics.

	1943	1942	1941
Under 1 year	869	886	524
Over 1 year	1377	1311	1434
Average for Session	22	21	19

School Nursing.

The Schools receive a routine visit by the Nurses once a term, when the children are weighed and measured and a cleanliness inspection is made. 331 visits were made to homes in respect of verminous heads. The Nurses assist at the Medical Inspection and Immunisation Clinics held at each school now each term.

The excellent combined health propaganda of the Teachers and Nurses had brought up the proportion of Immunised school children in December, 1943 to the gratifying level of 92%.

Tuberculosis Visiting and Infant Life Protection Visiting.

This is still being carried out very satisfactorily in all county districts by the Nurses.

In Kendal, Tuberculosis Visiting is carried out by Nurse Williams, who also assists at the Weekly and Evening Clinics.

Supervision of the Work of Midwives and District Nurses.

Very valuable assistance in this work has again been rendered by Miss Gill who acts as Assistant Supervisor when she is not engaged in relief work for the Nurses.

Relief Work carried out by Miss Gill, S.R.N., S.C.M., in 1943.

No. of Districts relieved	18
No. of weeks of Relief Work	40
No. of Maternity Cases	9
No. of Health Visits	408
No. of Sick Nursing Visits	1015

Relief Work carried out in 1943 by Mrs. Sacré, S.R.N., S.C.M. (County Council Midwife in Kendal).

No. of Districts relieved	7
No. of weeks of Relief Work	14½ weeks
No. of Midwifery Cases in the County ..	1

J. WRIGHT,
County Medical Officer.

REGISTRATION OF NURSING HOMES

(Sections 187 to 194 of the Public Health Act, 1936).

There were 6 Registered Homes at the end of the year, providing beds for 12 maternity patients and 49 other patients. They have been inspected and found to be satisfactorily run.

SCHEME FOR ANTENATAL AND POST NATAL MEDICAL SUPERVISION OF MIDWIVES' CASES.

The Scheme operates in the County of Westmorland and the Borough of Kendal.

During 1943, reports on the number of women examined by their own medical practitioners were as follows:—

No. of women antenatally examined.	No. of reports.
188	281

The results of the antenatal examinations on the 188 women were as follows:—

Cases to be undertaken by a midwife.	Abnormal cases to be undertaken by a doctor.	Cases to be admitted to Hospital for confinement.	Abnormal cases for extra antenatal visits.
163	11	14	12
Postnatal examinations.		Found to require treatment.	
62		2	

DENTAL TREATMENT FOR EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS.

Report of Senior Dental Officer for year ended 31-12-43.

During the year 1943 17 patients were treated within the scope of the scheme. The total number of visits made by patients to the Clinic was 73. Nearly all the cases who applied for dental treatment were referred from M. and C.W. Clinics, and only very few were referred by private medical practitioners. A letter was sent by the Medical Officer to all local doctors asking them to encourage patients to take advantage of the dental scheme. The voluntary car pool is willing to supply transport where difficulty is experienced in getting country patients to Dental Clinics. It is hoped that this will increase the number of patients who will accept treatment.

Several cases referred were not eligible for the provision of dentures as the result of having incomes above our income scale.

Only one patient required the administration of a general anaesthetic for extractions during the year.

Kendal still provides the largest number of patients, and of the 25 sessions devoted to the work, 18 were required for Kendal and 7 for County patients.

Extractions	46
Local Anaesthetics	12
General Anaesthetics	1
Scalings	5
Fillings	20
Other Operations	24
Dentures	15

J. IRVINE,

Senior Dental Officer.

THE PUERPERAL PYREXIA REGULATIONS, 1939.

During 1943, 10 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified. (See Tables, Notifiable Diseases, pages 17-18). One patient was admitted to the Lancaster Isolation Hospital for treatment, and 3 were admitted to Carlisle Infectious Diseases Hospital.

MATERNITY HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

Westmorland County Hospital.

The Maternity block has 8 beds which serve for abnormal cases requiring special treatment, and as an overflow from Helme Chase Maternity Home, when required.

The Council's Institutions at Kendal and Kirkby Stephen continue to serve their useful purpose. A few maternity cases are undertaken by these hospitals.

Helme Chase Maternity Home.

This Home is administered by a joint committee of representatives of the Westmorland County Hospital and the County Council. It was opened on the 4th December, 1939. There are 13 beds, one Labour Ward and one Isolation Bed. This provision is in addition to the beds provided at the Westmorland County Hospital. During 1943, 254 patients were admitted to Helme Chase Maternity Home, and 41 cases received a grant towards the cost of their maintenance under the County Council Scheme.

St. Monica's Maternity Home for Unmarried Mothers. (Carlisle Diocesan Maternity Home).

The Home possesses 23 maternity beds. 60 maternity cases were admitted in 1943.

INFANT LIFE PROTECTION.

The Infant Life Protection Visitors are the various District Nurses. In the County during 1943 the figures were as follows:—

Number of persons on the Register who were receiving			
children for reward at end of the year	...	...	14

Number of children on the Register:—

(1) At the end of the year	...	...	...	15
(2) Who died during the year	...	...	...	Nil

MIDWIVES ACTS, 1902, 1917 AND 1936.

Total number of Midwives practising at the end of the year, 59; of these, District Nurses numbered 34.

Nurses in Institutions: 12, viz.:—

(a) Westmorland County Hospital	...	...	4
(b) Helme Chase Maternity Home	...	...	3
(c) St. Monica's Maternity Home, Kendal	...	...	2
(d) Public Assistance Institution, Kendal	...	...	1
(e) Private Nursing Homes	...	...	11
(f) Trerose Emergency Maternity Unit	...	...	2

Wholetime salaried Midwives employed by the County Council,
2. Midwives in private (domiciliary) practice, 2.

Midwives' Notification Forms received during 1943 were as follows:—

Notification of sending for Medical Aid	...	...	188
Notification of Artificial Feeding	...	...	2
Notification of Stillbirth	...	...	5
Notification of Laying-out of a Dead Body	...	...	1
Notification of Liability to be a source of Infection	...	...	2
Notification of Death	...	...	2

The Midwives' Act, 1936, is carried out in the County by the District Nursing Services, and in the Borough of Kendal by the two salaried Midwives employed directly by the County Council.

Maternity Cases attended during 1943 are as follows:—

Domiciliary Cases.

	As midwives without a doctor.	As Mater- nity Nurses with a doctor.
In the County of Westmorland by the District Nurses ...	194	246
In the Borough of Kendal by the County Council Midwives ...	68	27
In the County and Borough by Mid- wives in Private Practice ...	—	13
	<hr/> 262 <hr/>	<hr/> 286 <hr/>

Cases in Institutions.

Westmorland County Hospital	...	23	...	37
Helme Chase Maternity Home	...	128	...	126
County Council Institution	...	3	...	2
Private Nursing Homes ...	...	10	...	153
Trerose Maternity Home	...	79	...	—
		<hr/>		<hr/>
		243		318
		<hr/>		<hr/>

Gas-Air Analgesia.

During the year the Kendal Midwives have administered analgesia to 67 cases (Maternity cases 14, Midwifery cases 53).

Ten District Nurses, acting as Midwives, are now qualified to administer Gas-Air Analgesia and have been supplied with the necessary apparatus.

The policy of the County Nursing Association is to train as many midwives as possible to administer analgesia; those who have the largest number of cases and are anxious to qualify are selected first for the training courses.

SCHOOL WELFARE.

Home visits paid by School Nurses	...	...	1851
Dental Treatment	...	...	2430
Dental Inspection	...	...	5609
Medical Inspection	...	...	3558
Eye Examinations	...	...	337

NUTRITION IN SCHOOL CHILDREN.

From the following table it can be seen that in spite of more than four years of war-restrictions on food, the standard of nutrition of our school children is high.

		Kendal.	Westmorland.
Excellent	...	44.36%	45.2%
Normal	...	46.46%	49.98%
Slightly Subnormal	...	8.66%	4.78%
Bad	...	.52%	.03%

BLIND PERSONS ACT, 1929.

No. of persons certified by the Council's Certifying Medical Officer during the year—12.

No. referred for specialist treatment under the Prevention of Blindness Scheme—11.

Total No. of Blind Persons on the Roll in December, 1943—97.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNTY ANALYST.

1. During the 12 months ended the 31st December, 1943, I have analysed 111 samples of Food and Drugs submitted by the Sampling Officers appointed for the County of Westmorland under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, viz.:—

From the Appleby Division	..	..	55
From the Kendal Division	..	..	56
			<hr/>
			111
			<hr/>

Compared with the number of samples received for analysis during 1942 these figures show an increase of 5 samples, which is accounted for by an increase of 5 in the number of Milk Samples.

2. The table given below is a summary of the results of the analysis of samples received during 1943, and the action taken in respect of those disclosing some irregularity, with the outcome of such action:—

No. of Milk Samples submitted	..	..	..	74
No. of Samples of other articles submitted	..	..	..	37
				<hr/>
				111
				<hr/>
No. of samples adulterated or below standard	..	..	..	14
No. of samples of genuine quality but below standard	..	..	..	5
No. of samples of doubtful quality	..	..	..	2
No. of reference samples	..	..	..	1
No. of appeal samples	..	..	..	10
No. of persons cautioned	..	..	..	3
No. of persons summoned	..	..	..	3
No. of persons convicted	..	..	..	2
No. of persons to pay costs only	..	..	..	0
No. of cases in which no action taken	..	..	..	8
No. of persons noted for further sampling	..	..	..	8
No. of cases pending at end of year	..	..	..	1
Amount of fines	..	..	..	£23 0 0
Amount of costs	..	..	..	13 3 11

It should be noted that 1 defendant was fined £5 on each of 4 summonses and was ordered to pay £8 5s. 3d. in costs. The number of samples reported as being adulterated or below standard is 14 as compared with 8 during the years 1940, 1941 and 1942.

3. The percentage of adulteration for the year is 14; for the 12 months ended the 31st December, 1942, it was 7.92. In each case all samples reported as being adulterated or below standard are included, and genuine samples below standard are taken into account in the total number for the purpose of calculation, but reference and appeal samples are not included.

4. During the year 63 samples of Milk were taken in the ordinary course of inspection, 1 less than in 1942, and of these 6 samples were found to be of genuine quality but below standard, and 12 adulterated or below standard. The samples which were genuine but below standard comprised one which was deficient both in Non-Fatty Solids and in Fat with a normal freezing point of -0.547 deg. C., one was deficient both in Non-Fatty Solids and in Fat but owing to the high acidity of the sample when received it was not possible to determine the freezing point, and 3 samples deficient in Non-Fatty Solids, all of which gave freezing points which were normal, ranging from -0.540 deg. C. to -0.546 deg. C. The samples which were adulterated or below standard were made up of 2 samples deficient in both Non-Fatty Solids and in Fat, the freezing points of which showed that there was added water in both samples; 3 samples were deficient in Non-Fatty Solids, and again the freezing points proved the presence of added water, and 7 samples were deficient in Fat only. Arising from these, 1 sample taken as a reference sample in course of delivery, and 10 appeal samples were received, all of which contained 8.50% or over of Non-Fatty Solids and with freezing points falling within recognised limits with a range of -0.541 deg. C. to -0.564 deg. C., and 2 of the appeal samples were slightly deficient in Fat.

The 45 samples of Milk reported as being of genuine quality, complying with the Sale of Milk Regulations, 1939, gave the following averages for Non-Fatty Solids and for Fat:—

Non-fatty Solids.	Fat.
8.74%	3.86%

for the year ended the 31st December, 1942, the average compositions of 56 samples of genuine Milk was:—

Non-fatty Solids.	Fat.
8.76%	3.71%

Reference to the Annual Reports for 1940 and 1941 shows that there is little variation in these figures, although the Fat average for 1943 gives a slightly higher figure than the others, but there is nothing to suggest that the quality of Milk produced in the County has suffered any deterioration through the shortage of concentrated Feeding Stuffs.

The percentage of adulteration for Milk this year is 19.05, and for the 12 months ended the 31st December, 1942, it was 11.11.

5. **Other Samples.**—Articles other than Milk, samples of which were received for analysis during the year, covered 23 different commodities, represented by 37 samples, all of which, with the exception of a sample of Bicarbonate of Soda, were Foodstuffs.

Only 2 of these were found to be unsatisfactory; one a Baking Powder, contained an excess of Bicarbonate of Soda, and the other which had been supplied as Semolina proved to consist of 100% sago.

The kind and number of these samples is given hereunder:—

Baking Powder	..	2
Bicarbonate of Soda	..	1
Cheese	..	3
Cocoa	..	3
Coffee	..	2
Custard Powder	..	2
Flour, Self-raising	..	3
Gelatine	..	1
Jam	..	2
Lard	..	1
Meat Paste	..	1
Marmalade	..	1
Oatmeal	..	1
Pepper	..	2
Rice	..	1
Sausage	..	2
Semolina	..	2
Sugar	..	1
Syrup	..	1
Tea	..	1
Vinegar	..	2
Egg Substitute	..	1
Margarine	..	1

The whole of these, with the exception of the 2 samples noted above, complied with the requirements of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and with the orders issued under the Defence Regulations, and the sample of Bicarbonate of Soda complied with the specification laid down in the British Pharmacopoeia, ed. 1932.

CYRIL J. H. STOCK,
County Analyst.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1943.

	Smallpox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever.	Paratyphoid Fever.	Erysipelas	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Other Forms of Tuberculosis	Pneumonia	Polio- Encephalitis	Poliomyelitis	Cerebro-spinal Fever.	Dysentery	Puerperal Pyrexia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Measles	Whooping Cough
Appleby	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	1	—	1	—	3	6
Kendal	—	56	64	—	—	2	24	11	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	30	4
Lakes	—	4	—	—	—	—	5	1	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	149	57
Windermere	—	4	—	—	—	1	6	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	104	20
North Westmorland ..	—	15	4	1	1	5	11	6	27	—	2	—	—	4	1	66	66
South Westmorland ..	—	25	8	—	—	4	15	3	9	1	—	—	—	4	1	84	35
Total	—	104	76	1	1	12	61	24	55	2	3	2	—	10	2	436	188

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1943.

Ages.	Scarlet Fever.	Smallpox.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.	Paratyphoid Fever.	Erysipelas.	Pneumonia.	Polio- encephalitis.	Polio- myelitis.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever.	Dysentery	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Measles	Whooping Cough
Under 1 year ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	—	—	2	4	10
1 " ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	21	18
2 " ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	25	18
3 " ..	6	—	3	—	—	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	36	13
4 " ..	8	—	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	42	32
5 " ..	44	—	28	—	—	—	5	1	1	1	—	—	—	207	81
10- " ..	25	—	12	—	—	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	73	8
15- " ..	6	—	10	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	13	1
20- " ..	9	—	12	—	1	3	5	—	—	—	—	8	—	12	3
35- " ..	2	—	5	—	—	3	5	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	3
45- " ..	—	—	1	1	—	2	11	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	1
65 and over ..	—	—	—	—	—	3	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Cases notified	104	—	76	1	1	12	55	2	3	2	—	10	2	436	188
Cases admitted to Hospital ..	98	—	72	—	1	—	1	2	1	2	—	4	—	5	—
Total Deaths ..	—	—	3	—	—	—	10	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

A table will be found on page 18 detailing the incidence of these diseases in 1943. The Registrar-General has supplied figures as to the incidence per 1,000 of the estimated average population of notifications of certain diseases in 1943 in England and Wales. In the following table the incidence of notifications of these diseases in Westmorland is compared with that of England and Wales:—

Notification Rates per 1,000 of the estimated resident population in 1942 and 1943.

		Westmorland.		England & Wales.	
		1942.	1943.	1942.	1943.
Typhoid Fever	...	—	0.01	...	0.01 0.01
Paratyphoid Fever	...	0.03	0.01	...	0.01 0.01
Cerebro Spinal Fever	...	0.09	0.03	...	0.14 0.08
Scarlet Fever	...	1.27	1.50	...	2.19 3.01
Whooping Cough	...	0.50	2.71	...	1.73 2.54
Diphtheria	...	0.84	1.10	...	1.05 0.88
Erysipelas	...	0.30	0.17	...	0.30 0.31
Smallpox	...	—	—	...	— —
Measles	...	5.04	6.29	...	7.46 9.98
Pneumonia	...	0.64	0.79	...	1.07 1.34

The increase in the number of cases of diphtheria was largely due to an epidemic in Kendal. This was disappointing after the wide immunisation campaign which has been conducted, but there were no deaths from diphtheria amongst children who were immunised, and in their cases the disease was much milder.

CANCER ACT, 1939.

Arrangements were made by the County Council under Section 1 of the above Act and were approved by the Ministry of Health on the 29th June, 1942.

Provision has been made for:—

- (a) a clinic for diagnosis and observation after treatment, to be held at the County Hospital, Kendal, once each month, conducted by the Director of the Holt Radium Institute, Manchester;
- (b) radio-therapeutic treatment and in-patient accommodation at the Holt Radium Institute;
- (c) surgical treatment and in-patient accommodation at the County Hospital, Kendal, and the Christie Hospital and Holt Radium Institute, Manchester.

The first Cancer Clinic was held at the Westmorland County Hospital, Kendal, on the 1st August, 1942, in charge of Dr. Nuttall, of the Christie Hospital and Holt Radium Institute, Manchester.

No. of clinics held at Kendal for the year ending the 31st December, 1943	12
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No. of new cases seen	77
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No. of follow-up cases seen	201
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No. of cases admitted to the County Hospital:—

New cases	30
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Follow-up cases	—
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No. of cases admitted to the Christie Hospital, Manchester:—

New cases	28
-----------	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Follow-up cases	1
-----------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

No. of cases attending for out-patient treatment at the Christie Hospital, Manchester:—

New cases	3
-----------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Follow-up cases	1
-----------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

It is most satisfactory to report that this clinic, which was one of the first to be instituted in the country under a County Council, is proving a great help and is being used by practitioners throughout the County. The scheme is approved annually by the Ministry of Health on the report of the County Medical Officer of Health and has been so approved. From enquiries received from various parts of the Country it is evident that our step forward in this direction has caused some interest. We are much indebted to the County Hospital, Kendal, and the Christie Hospital, Manchester, for the successful working of the scheme, and for the universal support of the medical practitioners in the County.

Deaths from Cancer, 1942 and 1943.

	1942.			1943.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Urban Districts	... 21	34	55	... 41	46	87
Rural Districts	... 26	29	55	... 26	36	62
			—			
Grand Total ...			110	Grand Total ...		
			—			
						149
			—			—

TUBERCULOSIS.

In the following table are the figures for the notifications of, and deaths from, Tuberculosis in 1943.

TUBERCULOSIS IN 1943.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5	3	2	6	6	—	—	—	—
15	7	9	—	3	3	3	—	2
25	17	7	3	3	2	—	3	—
35	3	7	—	1	2	1	—	1
45	1	2	—	1	1	—	—	—
55	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
65	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
TOTAL	32	29	10	14	8	5	3	3
1942	21	34	8	9	13	7	1	2

It will be observed that there is an increase in Tuberculosis during the year 1943.

In 1943, 46 patients were admitted to the Westmorland Sanatorium, Meathop. (See page 23).

Five patients suffering from surgical tuberculosis of the bones or joints received in-patient treatment as follows:—

In the Ethel Hedley Orthopaedic Hospital ...	...	1
In the Oswestry Hospital ...	...	3
In the Royal Lancaster Infirmary ...	...	1

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS—GRANTS.

The Council's Scheme was inaugurated on the 1st July, 1943, and 19 applications for grants have been received and allowed since this date up to the 31st December, 1943. The Scheme has been working satisfactorily in all ways. For the above period the following grants were made:—

Maintenance Allowances.	Discretionary Allowances.	Special Payments.	Total.
£494 17 2	£5 11 11	£12 1 5	£512 10 6

We should like to express the opinion that the limitation of the grants to certain types of lung tuberculosis is unsatisfactory and we should prefer it to include not only all cases of lung tuberculosis but also those of surgical tuberculosis.

The report which follows has been prepared by Dr. J. Munro Campbell, the Clinical Tuberculosis Officer, who is also Medical Superintendent of the Westmorland Sanatorium, Meathop, and to whom our thanks and appreciation are expressed for his very helpful co-operation.

COUNTY OF WESTMORLAND TUBERCULOSIS SCHEME.

Under this scheme the Medical Superintendent of the Sanatorium acts as Clinical Tuberculosis Officer for the County. Dispensaries are held at Kendal, Appleby and Meathop.

During the year 288 patients were seen for the first time, and of these 84 (including 21 transferred in) were suffering from tuberculosis.

The number of attendances at the Dispensaries was higher than usual at 743, and the number of visits by the T.O. to patients at home was 317.

	Pulmonary.				Non-Pulmonary				Total
	Male	Female	Male Children	Female Children	Male	Female	Male Children	Female Children	
Patients on register 1/1/43	92	100	16	9	10	24	17	16	284
Patients "transferred in"	11	7	0	1	1	0	0	1	21
Lost sight of and cases returned dur- ing year	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
New Cases T.B.—	9	11	3	2	0	0	0	0	25
New Cases T.B. + Non-Pulmonary	8	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	17
	—	—	—	—	1	8	5	5	19
Recovered	5	5	6	0	2	2	3	5	28
Died	9	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	14
Removed	6	13	1	0	1	0	3	4	28
Lost sight of, etc.	3	3	0	0	1	2	0	1	10
On register 31/12/43	98	103	13	12	8	26	16	12	288

There were a few non-pulmonary cases treated at Calgarth Hospital and Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital.

The pulmonary cases were treated at Westmorland Sanatorium, and the following table shows the admissions and discharges.

			In Institutions on Jan. 1.	Admitted during the year.	Discharged during the year	Died in the Institution	In Insti- tutions on Dec. 31.
Number of Patients.	Adults	M.	7	20	13	3	11
		F.	14	16	17	3	10
	Ch'd'n		2	7	3	—	6
Number of Observation Cases.	Adults	M.	—	2	2	—	—
		F.	—	—	—	—	—
	Ch'd'n		1	1	2	—	0
Total			24	46	37	6	27

The District Nurses who look after and report on the patients in their own homes have paid 1,750 domiciliary visits and continue to give much help in keeping in touch with notified cases. Nor would I forget the great assistance given me by the Nurses who help at the Dispensaries.

X-Rays.—349 films have been taken in connection with Dispensary work, and, like the number of refills given at the Sanatorium, is an increasing figure.

In July, 1943, the County Council accepted and put into action the recommendations relative to maintenance allowances. Whilst not minimising this great step forward, the provisions as at present existing are much too limited in their scope, and it is to be hoped that allowances will in due course be made more widely applicable.

In conclusion, I must thank my assistants, secretary, matron, and all other members of my staff, who have laboured hard and maintained an efficiency difficult to come by in these days of depleted staffs. I would also mention gratefully the work done by the gallant members of the W.V.S., who, after their own work is done, have come along and helped us through.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J. MUNRO CAMPBELL,

Medical Superintendent

County Clinical Tuberculosis Officer.

BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS.

The Tuberculosis Order, 1938, is carried out by the Divisional Inspector, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, in co-operation with the County Police.

During the period 1st January—31st December, 1943, 26 animals were slaughtered under the above Order as follows:—

18 Cows in Milk—

2 with T.B. milk.

8 suffered from tuberculous udders.

6 suffered from chronic cough.

2 suffered from emaciation.

8 other Cows or Heifers—

7 suffered from chronic cough.

1 suffered from emaciation.

The compensation to owners is now paid by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

It cannot be too strongly emphasised that Bovine Tuberculosis is largely due to infected milk, and we feel that a very strong line should be taken in this matter. The notification of such cases is in the hands of the Medical Practitioners, and it is probable that quite a number of borderline cases do not come to our notice in which the diagnosis is not definitely confirmed.

We desire to thank the Divisional Inspector for his ever-ready and valued help in investigating bovine tuberculosis.

BACTERIOLOGICAL AND BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

The systematic examination of milk samples for the bacterial count and for the presence of *Bacillus Tuberculosis* was commenced in November, 1932.

The following figures deal with the period November, 1932, to 31st December, 1943:—

BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK (for the presence of *Bacillus Tuberculosis*).

Period.	Total Cows.	Samples reported on.	T.B.	
			Neg.	Pos
14th November, 1932, to 31st December, 1942	... 44585	3091	3064	27
1st January, 1943, to 31st December, 1943	... 2674	140	136	4
	47259	3231	3200	31

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK (Methylene Blue Test for Cleanliness).

	Total Cows.	No. of bulk Samples.	Satis- fac- tory.	Unsatis- fac- tory.	Neg. for B.Coli.	Coliform Bacilli present in 1/100 m.		
						1 tube	2 tubes	3 tubes
Non-designated Producers	... 6636	350	154	192	110	41	42	153

(Of the 350 samples taken, 4 were tested by the phosphatase test and were found to be satisfactory; 74 were repeat samples—result: 26 satisfactory, 48 unsatisfactory).

The regular supervision of Tuberculin Tested and Accredited Milk is carried out by the County Agricultural Organiser.

The foregoing figures show that in the biological examination of Milk for *Bacillus Tuberculosis*, of the 3,231 samples, representing the milk from 47,259 cows, 31 samples were positive.

Immediately on receipt of a positive Laboratory Report on a sample, the Divisional Inspector is informed and makes arrangements for the examination of the herds involved, for the excluding from the milk herd any suspected cows, for the taking of individual samples from such cows for biological examination, and for a bulk sample being taken from the rest of the herd. Cows proved to be yielding the germ in their milk are destroyed.

A duplicate copy of the Laboratory Report on each sample is passed to the Medical Officer of Health of the Westmorland Combined Districts, who, through the various Sanitary Inspectors, informs the milk producer. When an unsatisfactory report is received steps are taken to encourage the producer in question to overhaul his methods and to secure cleaner milk. The active co-operation of the County Agricultural Organiser is invaluable here.

One cannot pretend to be satisfied with the results of the Methylene Blue Tests for cleanliness. Your Medical Officer was co-opted on the War Agricultural Committee, and it is obvious that they are having the same trouble with results. One of the main causes appears to be lack of water which can ensure proper cooling. We have taken special care of the milk sampling for schools, and every supply is tested at least three times a year by the Methylene Blue Test, and for B. Coli and Tuberculosis. It must be admitted that the policy of writing letters to producers on the receipt of unsatisfactory repeat samples has not produced the desired results.

PUBLIC HEALTH (VENEREAL DISEASES) REGULATIONS.

Westmorland patients are treated at the V.D. Clinics at the Cumberland Infirmary, Carlisle, and the Royal Infirmary, Preston.

17 new patients underwent treatment at the Carlisle Clinic in 1943, of whom 5 were suffering from Gonorrhoea, 2 from Syphilis and 10 from other conditions. The total attendances of patients, old and new, numbered 55.

28 new patients underwent treatment at the Preston Clinic in 1943, of which 8 were suffering from Gonorrhoea, 12 from Syphilis and 8 from other conditions. The total attendances of patients, old and new, numbered 344.

All applicants, before admission to St. Monica's Maternity Home, Kendal, for unmarried mothers, have the Wassermann Test applied. Should any prove positive they are admitted to the Hope Hospital, Leeds, for appropriate treatment. One patient was admitted to this Hospital during 1943.

In 1943, 149 blood specimens were sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, of which 12 were positive, 130 negative and 7 doubtful. Drugs were supplied to private practitioners where required.

This is the first full year in which we have had the Preston Clinic to send cases. The increase in venereal diseases has been

marked, as the total number of new cases during 1942 was 12, and attendances of patients, old and new, were 69. During the year no opportunity has been missed in addressing any meeting or body of people on Health, in bringing up the subject of Venereal Diseases, also by posters and every method of propaganda. It is satisfactory to note that during the current year there has been a distinct reduction in cases.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION, 1943.

No. of Children Treated.	Under 5.	School Age.	Total.
Appleby ...	34	7	41
North Westmorland ...	141	76	217
Lakes U.D.C. ...	57	11	68
Windermere U.D.C. ...	75	31	106
South Westmorland R.D.C. ...	139	211	350
Kendal ...	209	322	531
	<hr/> 655	<hr/> 658	<hr/> 1313

Proportion of Immunised Children in the County of Westmorland (excluding the Borough of Kendal.

Under 5 years	...	...	56%
5 years to 15 years	...	...	92%

Incidence of Diphtheria in children, 0—15 years, in the County of Westmorland (excluding the Borough of Kendal)—3.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.

Trerose Maternity Home, Arnside.

This Maternity Home was opened in July, 1942, to accommodate 10 lying-in cases, for the reception of expectant mothers from Barrow-in-Furness. Westmorland cases can also be admitted at a fee of £3 3s. per week. The following cases were admitted during the past 12 months:—

	No. of cases.
Barrow-in-Furness ...	57
Westmorland ...	8
Royal Lancaster Infirmary ...	14
	<hr/> 79

The Home is now fulfilling a real need and has been full during the latter part of the year. It has proved very successful, and special credit is due to the Matron, Miss Tunstall, who still retains her original staff.

Dungarth Ante-natal Hostel, Arnside.

This Hostel, for the accommodation of 20 cases, was also established in July, 1942, in conjunction with Trerose Maternity Home, for ante-natal cases. Although this Hostel has not been used, it is fully equipped and is being maintained on a care and maintenance basis, and is being supervised by the staff of Trerose Maternity Home.

St. John's Vicarage, Windermere, Short-time Residential Nursery.

This Residential Nursery was opened on the 24th August, 1942, for the reception of children under 5 years of age whose mothers are either at Trerose Maternity Home or Dungarth Ante-natal Hostel, Arnside. Accommodation was provided for 21 children. It was closed on the 10th November, 1943, on the instructions of the Ministry of Health and the remaining children were transferred to Quarry Garth War-time Nursery, Windermere. It is being kept on a care and maintenance basis.

Ibbotsholme Sick Bay, Windermere.

This Sick Bay was opened in September, 1940, for the care of evacuated children suffering from minor ailments. It was closed on the 19th July, 1943, on the instructions of the Ministry of Health, and is being kept on a care and maintenance basis.

Quarry Garth War-time Day Nursery, Windermere.

This War-time Nursery was opened on the 19th September, 1942, for children of working women. It has accommodation for 51 children—17 residential and 34 day children from 0-5. At the end of the year there were 15 children in residence and 14 day children. It is most noticeable that the progress in weight and well-being is much more distinct among the residential children than among the day children.

It has been necessary to divide the nursery into two main sections, keeping the babies under one year of age apart from the older ones. The chief danger in a residential nursery is the risk of infection, which can be most serious at this age. Where a baby is entirely under the nursery for care and feeding for 24 hours this can be dealt with, but it is disheartening to the Matron to take every care of a baby during the day and for the baby to go home in the evening, be mis-fed and neglected, and returned often in an unclean state in the morning.

The Matron, Mrs. Durham, has dealt with various problems as they arose in an efficient and satisfactory manner.

Marton House Nursery Unit, Longmarton.

This Nursery Unit was opened in July, 1943, for the maximum accommodation of 12 children. Equipment was supplied by the Ministry of Health, and the financial arrangements are entirely in the hands of the owner of the house, Mrs. Baker-Courtenay, who receives a billeting allowance of £1 1s. per week for each of the two Nursery Nurses and 8s. 6d. per week for each child billeted with her. At the end of the year there were 7 children in this Nursery Unit. It is visited regularly by the County Medical Officer and is a very happy little unit, and great credit is due to Mrs. Baker-Courtenay for her generosity and supervision.

SCABIES.

Cases have been treated at the Kendal and Appleby First Aid Posts from the 1st January, 1943, to the 31st December, 1943, as follows:—

		Cases Treated.	Baths Given.	Cases attending last Clinic.
Kendal	...	182	620	4
Appleby	...	216	426	1
		—	—	—
		398	1046	5
		—	—	—

Adults were also treated at these clinics.

It is satisfactory to report that this disease is now definitely under control, and during the latter part of the year there were very few cases. The clinics, however, are being maintained in case another emergency should arise.

CASUALTY BUREAU.

The usual duties in connection with the Casualty Bureau are being carried out as heretofore, and returns of Service sick and empty beds are made to the Ministry of Health in accordance with information received from the County Hospital and Morland Hall Convalescent Hospital. Reports have been made of injuries received by A.R.P. Personnel, and in the event of any local air activity full arrangements have been made for reporting casualties according to instructions.

It should be appreciated that Servicemen from a varied number of units come into our hospitals, and reports have to be made to their units and the Ministry of Health on their admission and discharge. The clerical work involved is considerable.

Thanks are again due to the A.R.P. Committee for the use of their ambulances in transferring cases to and from hospital.

CIVIL NURSING RESERVE.

Westmorland may take credit for the response of the young women of the County to the appeal for nurses. By the end of 1943 the numbers serving in hospitals were as follows:—

Trained Nurses	...	...	12
Assistant Nurses	...	...	10
Nursing Auxiliaries	...	...	122

They are mostly employed in hospitals in the North-West Region. Each girl, on application, is interviewed by the County Medical Officer and the Matron of the County Hospital or Isolation Hospital and approved before entry.

A fortnight's training follows at the County Hospital, at the end of which the Matron supplies us with a confidential report of the girl's adaptability.

A very high tribute should be paid to the Matron and staff of the County Hospital for the kindness and patience they have displayed in training these girls.

It may also be remarked that quite a number have found nursing so fascinating that they have left the reserve and decided to take up full training.

EVACUATION.

Many problems have arisen in connection with the above which are not dealt with in this report. The County Medical Officer has assisted Billeting Officers whenever possible in such matters as investigating complaints, certifying children for admission to Hostels, and generally helping in any medical points arising.





